

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

1-11. (Canceled).

12. (Original) A machine-readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein which, when executed by a processor cause the processor to perform a process comprising:

automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user; and
operating the network cache.

13. (Original) A device, comprising:

a network cache; and

a user interface to allow an operator to enter a character string known by the operator to be within a user object located in a database such that the character string is used to automatically configure the network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user.

14. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein automatically configuring a network cache comprises:

searching for a character string in a plurality of objects located in a database;

selecting an object from a subset of objects found to contain the character string;
retrieving the object;
receiving a selection of the attribute name associated with the character string in
the object; and
storing the attribute name in a configuration file in the network cache.

15. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the character string is a user ID.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15, wherein retrieving the object further comprises
receiving as input a password corresponding to the user ID.

17. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the attribute name corresponding to
each group ID in the object is selected and stored in a configuration file in the network
cache.

18. (Original) The device of claim 17, wherein if a non-parental group object is found
to have the user ID, the network cache retrieves the non-parental group object, receives
a selection of the attribute names associated with the attributes utilized to identify the
non-parental group, and stores the attribute names in a configuration file in the network
cache.

19. (Currently amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the network cache guesses which ~~attributes~~ attribute names to select once the object from the subset of objects has been retrieved.

20. (Currently amended) The device of claim 18, wherein the ~~attributes~~ attribute names stored in the configuration file are checked for correctness.

21-29. (Canceled).